

MINUTES OF THE FORTY-FOURTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

25 February 1955

Present

Members: Harold J. Gordon, Army  
Maj. Howard G. Neumann, Air Force

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Consultants:

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1. The 44th meeting convened at 1400 hours and the minutes of the 43rd meeting were approved with the following amendments:

a. Air Force: Capt. Colville's statement regarding the abstracting of scientific and technical publications should be added as follows:

"ATIC regrets the reduction, to any degree, of effort in the exploitation of Soviet scientific and technical literature. Rather, it would be more appropriate to increase the effort, if at all possible. It agrees that certain periodicals should have been eliminated and feels that the designated 35 periodicals were a positive step in the right direction. However, others agreed upon should be substituted for deletions.

"If, however, capability limitations on IAC are such that a reduction in effort is required, then, ATIC agrees to the designated 35 with the requested proviso that cover to cover abstracting and 5x8 cards continue. Conjointly, certain periodicals as 'Auto and Telemechanics' should be added, when available, to the list, if agreed upon by majority members."

2. Annual Exploitation Review

There were no emendations to the draft of the "Foreign Publications Exploitation Review." Several members expressed the comment that it will be a most useful publication. The study will be prepared for final reproduction and dissemination by FDD.

3. The working group on the program of scientific abstracting made its summary report, copies of which were distributed to the members, and will be made a part of the permanent record. A detailed report will be made available at the next meeting. The program as agreed upon calls for 13 titles to be abstracted by AID, 23 by ATIC and 19 by FDD; all on a cover to cover basis.

4. Unfinished business

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a. The expansion of coverage of "Science News Items" requested by [REDACTED] at the last meeting has been examined by FDD and it is found that this additional coverage can and will be provided.

b. As requested by Mr. Gordon at the last meeting, Soviet book reviews on their own books, when available, will be added to "Science News Items."

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c. In answer to [REDACTED] query regarding whether the Procurements Subcommittee had arranged for a combined accessions list, the Chairman stated that he had had conferences with CIA Library and arrangements have practically been completed to add all unclassified accessions to the "Monthly List of Russian Accessions" (MLRA) which would make it a combined list as requested. Classified titles will appear in the "Russian Book List" of CIA Library. [REDACTED] asked whether CIA Library could not indicate by asterisk or other device those entries the book list would carry which would also appear in MLRA. The Chairman stated that he doubted whether there would be such titles but he would find out.

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d. Regarding [REDACTED] feeling that Foreign Branch, CIA Library's annotations were inadequate, the Chairman stated that he had arranged for a meeting between [REDACTED] and CIA Library with the view of clarifying the problem.

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e. Mr. Gordon had asked at the previous meeting whether FDD's "Review of Chinese Communist Scientific and Technical Periodicals" could not be published more frequently than semiannually. The Chairman stated that FDD had found that sufficient material was becoming available to do so and in the future the publication would appear quarterly.

5. Review of "Selected Briefs From the International Press"

The following comments on the report were made:

Army: Satisfied with the report and find it useful.

Air Force and Navy: Would like to see it continued.

CIA: Likes the report.

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NSA: Very much pleased with it. [REDACTED] stated that in some areas, such as conferences and speeches, NSA is getting more coverage than needed as the subjects were well covered elsewhere.

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██████████ stated that it would be desirable if an item carried over to a second page could carry a repetition of the source reference at the top of the second page. The Chairman stated that this would present some editorial and reproduction problems in FDD, but that he would see if it was practical to comply.

*the product*  
State: Mr. Lacey forwarded the following statement prior to this meeting: 1) There was general interest on the part of several consumers in State; 2) there was an initial distribution problem which has been corrected (from 5 to 15). We are primarily organized geographically rather than functionally so that ~~placement~~ becomes incidental to a great number of our consumers. Specific users (e.g., Korea, Iran) would find the same information more useful if incorporated in their own country program; 3) some question arose as to the usefulness of some of the subcategories, e.g., "police" which is more of a national or individual category rather than an international one; 4) feeling that perhaps unnecessary duplication of some radio monitored material; and 5) not enough use made of provincial and local press material. State were aware of some local Communist Party developments in international contacts which were quite important. Although they were treated, their selections were not complete. Selection of items could be improved. *Coverage*

Several members suggested that it would be of value to have an index sheet at the beginning of the report which would carry references to item numbers under a "country" breakdown. The Chairman stated that he would determine whether this could be done.

The Chairman stated that FDD would like to make several changes, viz., the removal of the sections on Intra Orbit Trade and Travel, Resistance and Sabotage, and Security Police and place this information in the appropriate area reports.

There was objection to the removal of Intra Orbit Trade and Travel section but none to the change of the other categories.

The Chairman summed up the findings as follows: that the report is useful and should be continued in its present form, except that the two categories Resistance and Sabotage, and Security Police will be discontinued and will be reported in the appropriate area reports.

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This was agreed to by the Subcommittee.

## 6. USSR Program

In commenting, the members replied as follows to the current FDD Program:

Army: Satisfied with the program as it stands

Air Force: No suggestions for change

CIA: Valuable to CIA

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NSA: Find it satisfactory. [REDACTED] stated that NSA would like to have the original Russian included where it appeared in the source text in expansion of abbreviations, and a clear indication of whether expansions were done by FDD. The Chairman stated that bracketed text always indicates an FDD entry not contained in the source text. Parentheses indicate matter in the source material. FDD will include the Russian when the expansion is carried in the text, as requested by [REDACTED]

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Comments to FDD's suggested adjustments in the program were made as follows:

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a. Political - Addition of an annual index of "Vedomosti." Dr. [REDACTED] stated that NSA would like this information but would prefer to receive it twice a year. [REDACTED] stated that ~~it would be of use to CIA, but~~ it would be desirable to have any information available on the economic emphasis assigned by the Soviets to political territorial changes.

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b. Sociological - Education. Elimination of primary and secondary and emphasis and expansion on coverage of higher education. This was agreed to by the Subcommittee.

Elimination of the Report "Crime in the USSR." There was no objection to this adjustment. The Chairman stated that it would be temporarily shelved pending an expression from Department of State.

c. Military - Add coverage of "Sovetskiy Flot." This was agreed to.

d. Economic - Omit local details of "domestic trade" and "labor and manpower" and concentrate on all-union and republic data. No agreement could be reached on this point and the Chairman suggested that decision as to just what local details might be omitted could be best worked out in working-level conferences with the consumers.

The Chairman suggested that inasmuch as ONI and ORR are both covering "Water Transport" perhaps it would be well for FDD to cease its exploitation of the publication.

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[REDACTED] did not think it a good idea as ORR's activity is a temporary one based upon a personal situation in which an analyst can do this work and there was no assurance as to how long this would last. In addition, while at the moment ORR's needs are satisfied, it is not published and they had not the capacity to make the information available to other

agencies or even to all divisions of ORR.

FOIA b3C [redacted] stated that the information produced by FDD was useful to NSA.

The Subcommittee as a whole felt that FDD should continue to monitor the publication.

25X9A1 The Chairman then summed up as follows: Additions should not be attempted if they would necessitate a loss from the present program. The present USSR Program is useful and will continue. A semiannual index of [redacted] will be produced. Working-level meetings will be held to determine finally whether any local details can be omitted from reporting on domestic trade and labor and manpower.

This was agreed to by the Subcommittee.

7. The Chairman stated that there are many additional items which have been requested but for which FDD does not now have the manpower. He thought that the Subcommittee should review all such items and report later to the Advisory Committee on all things which should be done but cannot be covered by present facilities.

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8. First copies of the FDD "Monthly Information Report on [redacted] and Korea (1)," Summary #364, dated 1 February 1955 were distributed to the members.

9. The agenda for the next meeting will be a review of the "China Program." Statement of production in the current program has been forwarded separately to each member.

10. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held on Friday, 11 March 1955, in Room 2125 M Building at 1400 hours.

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